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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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COUNTRY

UBER

SUBJECT

Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute

PLACE
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THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
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LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON OR PERSONS IS PROHIBITED.

1. The Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute officially came into existence in 1928. The Institute is an offshoot of the Institute of Mines which was founded in 1869 at Dnepropetrovsk. During 1927-28 the functions of the Institute of Mines were divided among five separate institutes. These included institutes for mining, metallurgy, chemistry, construction, and transportation. The mining institute remained in the original buildings and new facilities were constructed for the newer institutes. The Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute was established and still remains at Stornaya Ploshchad', Lageraya Ulitsa #2. The Metallurgical Institute is directly under the control of the Ministry of Higher Education. The Institute is completely financed by the Soviet government.
2. The Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute was comprised of three principal divisions: the Scientific Research Branch, the Educational Branch, and the Administrative Services Branch. The Scientific Research Branch was subdivided into two basic components: laboratories for scientific research and laboratories for student instruction. Five laboratories were organized for scientific research. These included the Cast Iron Laboratory, the Martin and Bessemer Processes and Electric Steel Laboratory, the Mechanical Laboratory, the Rolling Mill Laboratory, and the Thermal Technical Laboratory. Projects specifically assigned to the Institute and independent research problems of faculty members were undertaken in these five laboratories. Students were very seldom permitted to use them. Occasionally permission to utilize the laboratories for thesis research was granted.

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The subdivision for student instruction was composed of six laboratories. These included the Chemistry, Physics, Mechanics, Construction Materials, Metallurgy, and Metallurgy Laboratories. The Scientific Research Branch also had a drafting and a mechanical drawing room which students could utilize.

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3. The Educational Branch, because of its instructional activities, maintained a very high position in the Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute. The Educational Branch contained various departments but the most significant paralleled the five principal fields of specialization within the Metallurgical Institute. These were the Cast Iron, Bessemer and Martin Processes, Rolling Mill, Mechanics, and Construction Departments. The Construction Department was concerned mainly with refractory bricks used for ovens designed for metal smelting processes. The remaining departments were not large and were not considered as fields of specialization for the Institute.
4. The housekeeping functions of the Metallurgical Institute were handled by the subdivisions of the Administrative Services Branch. Among the subdivisions were units for finance, procurement, personnel, grounds and buildings, security guards, and fire protection. A special section of the administrative branch gathered information about the political reliability of students and faculty. The section was composed of one official who had direct liaison with the NKVD and two clerks. According to rumors, two or three informers were planted within each group of approximately forty students to report political deviations. A similar system of informants undoubtedly existed within the faculty. As an example of the section's functions, in 1931

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5. In addition to the three principal branches, the Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute also had three rather small but quite powerful units which operated immediately under the office of the director of the institute. These were the Secret Section, the Communist Party Committee, and the Professional Union Committee. All three were concerned with policy matters affecting the entire Institute.

The Secret Section could order the director to dismiss unreliable faculty members or students. The section also controlled the political content of courses of instruction, particularly those of political or economic nature. The Secret Section also operated a network of informers within the Institute. The section was in direct communication with the district NKVD headquarters. The probability that the NKVD district headquarters maintained its own informer net within the Institute was also rumored.

The Communist Party Committee was composed of twelve to fifteen loyal Party members who directed the desired programs of the Communist Party.

The Professional Union Committee, as the name implies, represented the interests of the professional union to which the institute personnel belonged.

6. The Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute had no formal coordinating agreements with other research centers or industrial establishments in the USSR. Problems were handled on ad hoc basis. If a factory had need for a metallurgical adviser, the factory could submit a request for the expert through the appropriate ministry in Moscow. Under this arrangement a factory in Dnepropetrovsk, therefore, might be assigned a metallurgical expert from perhaps Leningrad rather than one from the Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute. The assignment of a technical adviser depended a great deal on the qualifications and availability of the desired kind of expert. Some factories did have direct channels of communication with the technical institutes within the plant's locality but the arrangements were not formalized. No formal channels of coordination existed among the previously mentioned five institutes which emerged from the Institute of Mines.
7. The Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute had no association with any foreign institutions and had no financial support from any foreign groups. No foreigners were numbered among the faculty. Many [redacted] scientists were, however, used in an advisory capacity after the [redacted] hostilities of World War II.

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8. By 1941 the Baugropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute was fairly well established as one of the better metallurgical institutes in the USSR. The Institute had built up a competent faculty and a well equipped physical plant for both instruction and research. The lack of practical training for students, which was common to all technical institutes in the USSR, was the principal criticism which could be levelled against the Baugropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute. The students spent ninety per cent of their time getting a theoretical background in classroom lectures and only ten per cent in laboratories getting practical experience. The time spent in the laboratories was only three or four hours per week and most of this time was spent watching demonstrations by the instructors rather than in practical experimentation.

This emphasis on theory and lack of practical application of knowledge in Soviet technical institutions was a legacy from the pre-revolutionary technical leaders. As a result of the meager grounding in application of principles taught, the graduates of Soviet technical institutions required a great deal of time after leaving the institutes to be of much direct use to Soviet industry.

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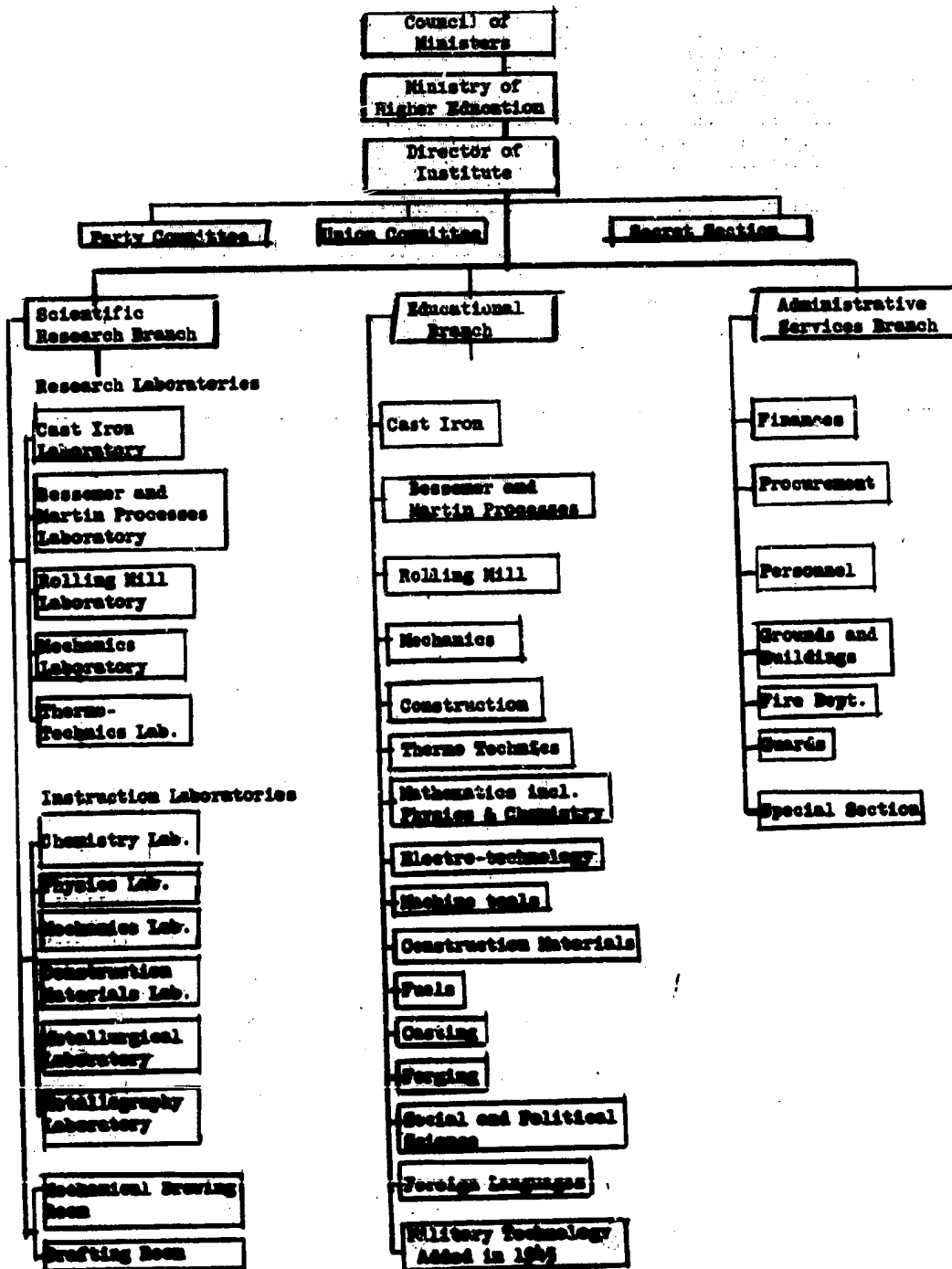
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